SUMMARY

- First autism conference east of the Mississippi River to focus totally on adult autism issues

- Tracks include employment, independent living, social relationships, research, and wellness

- Multiple social networking events for adults on the spectrum

For more information, go to www.gcaspies.org/symposium for updates

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Inaugural Tri State Adult Autism Symposium Conference

Saturday, July 22, 2017

Red Bank Baptist Church
4000 Dayton Boulevard
Chattanooga, TN
**SYMPOSIUM FOUNDING**

After conducting an extensive search of adult autism conferences, Scott Kramer found that only two existed - in the San Francisco Bay area and London, UK areas. Nothing else.

That led Scott, an autistic adult/adult on the autism spectrum, to wonder what would happen if a conference like this took place in the Chattanooga, TN area. He talked with numerous executive directors of autism and disability organizations, support group leaders, and other individuals to see what kind of needs existed.

Scott sent out a multiple-question survey on many Facebook groups to get responses from these adults, their parents/caretakers, and others.

The responses from these groups and meetings led to the Symposium’s founding on June 1, 2016.

**FAQS ABOUT THE SYMPOSIUM**

**WHAT MAKES THIS PARTICULAR CONFERENCE DIFFERENT FROM OTHER AUTISM CONFERENCES?**

1. 100% focused on adult autism issues (employment, independent living, research, wellness, and social relationships)

2. Social networking opportunities for autistic adults/adults on the autism spectrum—the day before and day of the Symposium

3. Breakout sessions for support group leaders and more, in addition to conference sessions

4. Founded and coordinated by an autistic adult

**I NOTICED THAT THIS SAYS “TRI STATE” - WHICH STATES AND CAN ANYONE LIVING OUTSIDE THAT AREA ATTEND?**

As a program of the Chattanooga Autism Center, the GCA Centre for Adult Autism (GCA) serves the same tri state area of Tennessee, Georgia, and Alabama. Thus, the Symposium conference is focused on those states.

We look forward to welcoming participants from all areas of the country.

**HOW MUCH WILL IT COST TO ATTEND THIS CONFERENCE?**

GCA expects this conference to be priced reasonably in line with other one-day/full-day autism conferences. People will be able to get registration information, when online registration for this conference opens up in late April 2017 or early May 2017 at www.chattanoogaautismcenter.org.

**DO YOU HAVE ANY VOLUNTEER POSITIONS AVAILABLE?**

Yes. There will be a number of volunteer opportunities at the Symposium. By volunteering, your registration will be covered. A great way to help out while getting great information for free! Contact Scott Kramer at scott.kramer@chattanoogaautismcenter.org for more details.

**WHERE CAN I GET ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IN THE MEANWHILE?**

The Symposium page of the GCA website, which is www.gcaspies.org/symposium. Information will be updated as time is closer to the Symposium and online registration opens.